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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8338
INFO RUEHGB/AMEMBASSY BAGHDAD 0052
RHMFIUU/COMUSKOREA J5 SEOUL KOR
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SUBJECT: FM BAN KI-MOON CONVEYS CONGRATULATIONS ON KILLING
OF ZAROAWI

(SBU) Foreign Minister Ban Ki-Moon, during a June 9 meeting with Washington DC Mayor Anthony Williams, asked the Ambassador to convey to Secretary Rice -- and through her, to the U.S. military and all members of the Iraqi coalition -- Korea's congratulations on the killing of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. Ban noted that the entire international community, Korea's Zaytun unit, and the family of former South Korean hostage Kim Sun-il (beheaded by Zarqawi in June 2004) can breathe a sigh of relief. He underscored Korea's continued solidarity with the Untied States in the war on terror.

VERSHBOW